



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/657,940

Filing Date: September 9, 2003

Applicant: Jason D. Meridew, et al.

Group Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: Richard R. Shaffer

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR USE OF A SELF-TAPPING RESORBABLE SCREW

Attorney Docket: 5490-000341

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT & PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed December 26, 2007, and prior to examination of the present application, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks set forth below.

Applicants hereby petition under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a one month extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action and include a payment of the fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) with this response for such extension of time.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.

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